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1617	UNITED STATES I DISTRICT O	
18 19	Cung Le, Nathan Quarry, Jon Fitch, Brandon Vera, Luis Javier Vazquez, and Kyle Kingsbury on behalf of themselves and all	Case No.: 2:15-cv-01045-RFB-BNW
20	others similarly situated,	PLAINTIFFS' AND ZUFFA'S STATEMENTS RE: ISSUES IN
21	Plaintiffs, v.	DISPUTE FOR EVIDENTIARY HEARING RE: CLASS
22	Zuffa, LLC, d/b/a Ultimate Fighting Championship and UFC,	CERTIFICATION
23	Defendant.	
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Pursuant to the Court's request at the December 14, 2018 hearing ¹, Plaintiffs Cung Le, Nathan Quarry, Jon Fitch, Brandon Vera, Luis Javier Vazquez, and Kyle Kingsbury ("Plaintiffs") and Defendant Zuffa, LLC ("Zuffa") submit this statement identifying the issues each party believes are in dispute for the evidentiary hearing. The parties previously submitted separate briefs on the legal standard that applies to the hearing, including whether Plaintiffs' proposed plausibility or ultimate admissibility standard comports with Supreme Court and Ninth Circuit law. *See* ECF Nos. 633, 634, 640, 644.

PLAINTIFFS' STATEMENT OF DISPUTED ISSUES RELEVANT TO THE HEARING ON PLAINTIFFS' CLASS CERTIFICATION MOTION

BOUT CLASS

- 1. <u>Predominance: Common Impact.</u> Whether Plaintiffs have presented a plausible, or in the alternative in a form capable of ultimately being admissible at trial, method for attempting to prove impact to the Bout Class with common evidence, including the following sub-issues:
 - a. Whether "Wage Share"—i.e., compensation paid to Fighters expressed as a percentage of event revenues (as opposed to wage level)—is a plausible or ultimately admissible metric for analyzing impact to Class members in this case. Plaintiffs' Motion for Class Certification ("Class Mot."), ECF. No. 518, at 30-33; Reply in Support of Plaintiffs' Motion for Class Certification ("Class Reply"), ECF No. 554, at 1-2, 7-9; Plaintiffs' Opposition to Singer and Zimbalist *Daubert* Motions ("Daubert Opp."), ECF No. 534, at 1-3, 10-25.
 - b. Whether Dr. Singer's "Impact Regression" model constitutes a plausible (or ultimately admissible) method that uses common evidence in attempting to show that Class members were harmed by the conduct Plaintiffs are challenging as anticompetitive in this case (the

¹ "So it would be helpful for me for you all to come up with at that hearing an agreed-upon sort of stipulated set of facts as relates to the experts' opinion if you can, but also an agreed-upon set of disputed issues. So not quite a joint pretrial order, but again I find in this circumstance it's more helpful for us all to understand what it is that's disputed specifically so that we don't have any concerns or issues about people having been misled about what the other side was going to be asking about." Dec. 15, 2018 Hr'g Tr. at 55:13-21, ECF No. 627.

- "Challenged Conduct"). Class Mot. at 3, 14-15, 19, 23-26; Class Reply at 2, 6-12; Daubert Opp. at 1-2, 7-25, 29-31.
- c. Whether Plaintiffs' common evidence provides a plausible (or ultimately admissible) basis for attempting to show common impact, including:
 - i. Whether Dr. Singer's Impact Regression model is a plausible (or ultimately admissible) method that uses common evidence in attempting to show that Zuffa's Challenged Conduct generally suppressed Fighter compensation. Class Mot. at 3, 14-15, 19, 23-26; Class Reply at 2, 6-12; Daubert Opp. at 1-2, 7-25; 29-31.
 - ii. Whether Dr. Singer's Impact Regression model is a plausible (or ultimately admissible) method that uses common evidence in attempting to show that the Challenged Conduct caused impact to nearly 99% of members of the Bout Class. Class Mot. at 3, 14-15, 19, 23-26; Class Reply at 2, 6-12; Daubert Opp. at 1-2, 7-25; 29-31.
 - iii. Whether common evidence in the record can plausibly show that Fighter pay at all ranking levels moved together over time, indicating that there was an implicit pay structure. Class Mot. at 3-5, 14-15, 19, 25-29; Class Reply at 2,6-7, 12-15; Daubert Opp. at 8-9.
 - iv. Whether common evidence in the record—including evidence that Zuffa allegedly sought to impose some measure of internal equity in compensating its Fighters—can plausibly show that there was an implicit pay structure causing the pay of Fighters at all ranking levels to move together over time, thereby implying that the Challenged Conduct would and did have a common effect across the Bout Class. Class Mot. at 3-5, 14-15, 19, 25-29; Class Reply at 2, 6-7, 12-15; Daubert Opp. at 8-9.
- 2. <u>Aggregate Damages</u>: Whether Plaintiffs' common evidence and expert modelling provide a plausible, or in the alternative ultimately admissible, method to attempt to prove aggregate damages to the Bout Class as a whole.

- a. Whether "Wage Share"—*i.e.*, compensation paid to Fighters expressed as a percentage of event revenues (as opposed to wage level)—is a plausible (or ultimately admissible) metric for analyzing damages to Class members in this case. Class Mot. at 15-16, 24-25, 29-33; Class Reply at 1-2, 7-9; Daubert Opp. at 1-3, 7-25.
- b. Whether Dr. Singer's Impact Regression model is a plausible (or ultimately admissible) method that uses common evidence in attempting to compute aggregate damages to the Bout Class. Class Mot. at 3, 14-16, 24-26, 29-30; Class Reply at 1-2; Daubert Opp. at 1-3, 7-25; 29-31.
- c. Whether Dr. Singer's yardstick models that use the shares of event revenues paid as compensation to Fighters at Bellator and Strikeforce are plausible (or ultimately admissible) methods for proving aggregate damages to the Bout Class. Class Mot. at 14-16, 25, 29-30; Class Reply at 21; Daubert Opp. at 34-35
- d. Whether Prof. Zimbalist's yardstick model that uses the shares of revenues paid to athletes in other major U.S. professional sports is also a plausible (or ultimately admissible) method for proving aggregate damages to the Bout Class. Class Mot. at 12-16, 25, 29-31; Class Reply at 21; Daubert Opp. at 50-63.
- e. Whether Plaintiffs' experts' aggregate damages models offer plausible (or ultimately admissible) methods for estimating damages from the Challenged Conduct and not from any alleged procompetitive conduct. Class Mot. at 13-14, 24, 29-30; Class Reply at 21-24; Daubert Opp. at 31-34, 59-61.

IDENTITY CLASS

- 1. <u>Predominance: Common Impact.</u> Whether Plaintiffs have presented a plausible, or in the alternative in a form capable of being admissible at trial, method for attempting to prove impact to the Identity Class with common evidence, including the following sub-issues:
 - **A.** Whether Dr. Singer's Impact Regression model constitutes a plausible (or ultimately admissible) method that uses common evidence in attempting to show that Class members

- were harmed by the Challenged Conduct. Class Mot. at 3, 14-15, 19, 23-26, 29; Class Reply at 2, 6-12, 24-25; Daubert Opp. at 1-2, 7-25; 29-31.
- **B.** Whether Dr. Singer's methods and analyses constitute plausible, or in the alternative ultimately admissible, methods that use common evidence in attempting to show impact to Class members using common evidence:
 - i. Whether Dr. Singer's Impact Regression model is a plausible (or ultimately admissible) method that uses common evidence in attempting to show Zuffa's Challenged Conduct generally suppressed Fighter compensation for identity rights. Class Mot. at 3, 14-15, 19, 23-26, 29; Class Reply at 2, 6-12, 24-25; Daubert Opp. at 1-2, 7-25; 29-31.
 - ii. Whether Dr. Singer's Impact Regression model is a plausible (or ultimately admissible) method that uses common evidence in attempting to show that Zuffa's Challenged Conduct caused impact to over 99% of members of the Class. Class Mot. at 3, 14-15, 19, 23-26, 29; Class Reply at 2, 6-12, 24-25; Daubert Opp. at 1-2, 7-25; 29-31.
- 2. <u>Aggregate Damages</u>: Whether Plaintiffs' common evidence and expert modelling provides a plausible, or in the alternative ultimately admissible, method to attempt to prove damages to the Identity Class as a whole.
 - **A.** Whether Dr. Singer's Impact Regression model is a plausible (or ultimately admissible) method that uses common evidence in attempting to compute aggregate damages to the Identity Class. Class Mot. at 3, 14-16, 24-26, 29-30; Class Reply at 1-2, 24-25; Daubert Opp. at 1-2, 7-25; 29-31, 35.
 - **B.** Whether Dr. Singer's calculation of a nominal payment to Fighters for their identity rights when signing a Fighter contract with Zuffa is a plausible (or ultimately admissible) method that uses common evidence in attempting to compute aggregate damages to the Identity Class. Class Mot. at 29-30; Class Reply at 24-25; Daubert Opp. at 35.

C. Whether Dr. Singer's aggregate damages models offer plausible (or ultimately admissible) methods for estimating damages from the Challenged Conduct and not from any alleged procompetitive conduct. Class Mot. at 13-14, 24, 29-30; Class Reply at 21-24; Daubert Opp. at 31-35. JOINT STATEMENT RE: ISSUES IN DISPUTE AT EVIDENTIARY HEARING

ISSUES PLAINTIFFS CLAIM ARE NOT PLAUSIBLY DISPUTED

Plaintiffs believe that there are a number of disputed issues common to the Class as a whole about which, while the parties may dispute them on the merits, there cannot be any plausible dispute that they are common issues. Those issues are as follows:

1. Predominance: Common Proof of Violation.

A. The Existence of Market Power Is a Common Issue.

- i. Plaintiffs believe that Zuffa cannot and does not plausibly dispute that whether Plaintiffs can attempt to prove Zuffa's market power with direct evidence—*e.g.*, Zuffa's ability to profitably suppress wages paid to Fighters or increase prices and reduce output—is an issue common to the classes as a whole, and neither its proof, relevance, nor disproof will give rise to individualized issues. Class Mot. at 2-3, 6-7, 16-21; Class Reply at 2, 4-5.
- ii. Plaintiffs believe that Zuffa cannot and does not plausibly dispute that whether Plaintiffs can attempt to prove Zuffa's market power with indirect evidence—*e.g.*, market definition, Zuffa's market share, and the existence of barriers to entry—is an issue common to the classes as a whole, and neither its proof, relevance, nor disproof will give rise to individualized issues. Class Mot. at 2-3, 6-7, 16-21; Class Reply at 2, 4-6, 10.
- iii. Plaintiffs believe that Zuffa cannot and does not plausibly dispute that whether Plaintiffs define appropriate Relevant Markets is an issue common to the classes as a whole, and neither its proof, relevance, nor disproof will give rise to individualized issues. Class Mot. at 2-3, 6-7, 16-21; Class Reply at 2, 4-6.
- iv. Plaintiffs believe that Zuffa cannot and does not plausibly dispute that how to calculate Zuffa's market share—*e.g.*, appropriate weighting mechanisms—is an issue common to the classes as a whole, and neither its proof, relevance, nor disproof will give rise to individualized issues. Class Mot. at 2-3, 6-7, 16-21; Class Reply at 2, 4-5.

- v. Plaintiffs believe that Zuffa cannot and does not plausibly dispute that whether barriers to entry in the Relevant Markets exist is an issue common to the classes as a whole, and neither their proof, relevance, nor disproof will give rise to individualized issues. Class Mot. at 2-3, 6-7, 16-21; Class Reply at 2, 4-5.
- **B.** Willful Acquisition/Maintenance of Market Power: Plaintiffs believe that Zuffa cannot and does not plausibly dispute that whether the Challenged Conduct is anticompetitive is a common issue. The parties do not dispute that whether Zuffa's use of its exclusive Fighter contracts is anticompetitive is an issue common to the classes as a whole and neither its proof, relevance, nor disproof will give rise to individualized issues. Class Mot. at 2-3, 8-11, 16-21; Class Reply at 2, 4-6.

C. Substantial Foreclosure.

- i. Existence of Foreclosure Is a Common Issue. Plaintiffs believe that Zuffa cannot and does not plausibly dispute that whether Zuffa's exclusive promotional and ancillary rights agreements ("Fighter Contracts") are capable of foreclosing actual or potential rivals is an issue common to the classes as a whole, and neither its proof, relevance, nor disproof will give rise to individualized issues. Class Mot. at 2-3, 11, 16-21; Class Reply at 2, 4-6, 9-11.
- ii. The Validity of Plaintiffs' Foreclosure Analyses Is a Common Issue. Plaintiffs believe that Zuffa cannot and does not plausibly dispute that whether Plaintiffs can prove that Zuffa used its Fighter Contracts to foreclose the Relevant Markets is an issue common to the classes as a whole and neither its proof, relevance, nor disproof will give rise to individualized issues. Class Mot. at 2-3, 11, 16-21; Class Reply at 2, 4-6, 9-11.
- iii. The Appropriateness of Dr. Singer's Foreclosure Share Metric Is a CommonIssue. Plaintiffs believe that Zuffa cannot and does not plausibly dispute that whetherDr. Singer's Foreclosure Share metric is appropriate is an issue common to the classes

as a whole, and neither its proof, relevance, nor disproof will give rise to individualized issues. Class Mot. at 2-3, 11, 16-21; Class Reply at 2, 4-6, 9-11.

iv. How to Weight Zuffa's Foreclosure Share Is a Common Issue. Plaintiffs believe that Zuffa cannot and does not plausibly dispute that how to weight Foreclosure Share or otherwise account for differences in the quality of Fighters at MMA promotions is an issue common to the classes as a whole, and neither its proof, relevance, nor disproof will give rise to individualized issues. Class Mot. at 2-3, 11, 16-21; Class Reply at 2, 4-6, 9-11.

D. Anticompetitive Effects.

- i. Whether Dr. Singer's Impact Regression Proves Anticompetitive Effects Is a Common Issue. Plaintiffs believe that Zuffa cannot and does not plausibly dispute that whether Dr. Singer's regression—which the parties' experts agree shows that as Zuffa's Foreclosure Share increased, Zuffa's Wage Share decreased—is capable of plausibly showing that Zuffa suppressed Fighter compensation is an issue common to the classes as a whole and neither its proof, relevance, nor disproof will give rise to individualized issues. Class Mot. at 2-3, 12-26, 28; Class Reply at 2, 4-7, 9-12.
- ii. Whether Zuffa's Challenged Conduct Reduced the Quality of MMA Events Is a Common Issue. To the extent this issue is relevant at all in a monopsony case, Plaintiffs believe that Zuffa cannot and does not plausibly dispute that whether Plaintiffs can plausibly prove that Zuffa's Challenged Conduct reduced the quality of MMA events is an issue common to the classes as a whole, and neither its proof, relevance, nor disproof will give rise to individualized issues. Class Mot. at 2-3, 13-14, 16-21, 25; Class Reply at 2, 4-6.
- iii. Whether Zuffa's Challenged Conduct Reduced Marketwide Output of MMA

 Events Is a Common Issue. To the extent this issue is relevant at all in a monopsony case, Plaintiffs believe that Zuffa cannot and does not plausibly dispute that whether Plaintiffs can plausibly prove that Zuffa's Challenged Conduct reduced marketwide

output of live MMA events is an issue common to the classes as a whole, and neither its proof, relevance, nor disproof will give rise to individualized issues. Class Mot. at 2-3, 13, 16-21; Class Reply at 2, 4-6.

- **Shows to Consumers Is a Common Issue.** To the extent this issue is relevant at all in a monopsony case, Plaintiffs believe that Zuffa cannot and does not plausibly dispute that whether Plaintiffs can plausibly prove that Zuffa's market power enabled it to raise the price of Pay-Per-View shows to consumers is an issue common to the classes as a whole, and neither its proof, relevance, nor disproof will give rise to individualized issues. Class Mot. at 2-3, 16-21; Class Reply at 2, 4-6.
- v. The Existence of Procompetitive Effects Is a Common Issue. Plaintiffs believe that Zuffa cannot and does not plausibly dispute that whether Zuffa's Challenged Conduct had any procompetitive effects is an issue common to the classes as a whole, and neither its proof, relevance, nor disproof will give rise to individualized issues. Class Mot. at 2-3, 13-14, 16-21; Class Reply at 2-6.
 - 1. Plaintiffs believe that Zuffa cannot and does not plausibly dispute that whether Zuffa's conduct had any procompetitive effects is an issue common to the classes as a whole, and neither its proof, relevance, nor disproof will give rise to individualized issues. Class Mot. at 2-3, 13-14, 16-21; Class Reply at 2-6.
 - 2. Plaintiffs believe that Zuffa cannot and does not plausibly dispute that whether any of Zuffa's claimed procompetitive bases for its Challenged Conduct are pretextual or could be achieved by less restrictive alternatives are issues common to the classes as a whole, and neither their proof, relevance, nor disproof will give rise to individualized issues. Class Mot. at 2-3, 13-14, 16-21; Class Reply at 2-6.
- 2. <u>Predominance: Common Proof of Impact</u>: Whether "Wage Share" or "Wage Level" Is the Appropriate Metric Is a Common Issue. Plaintiffs believe that Zuffa cannot and does not plausibly dispute that whether the appropriate dependent variable in a regression assessing

1	the effects of Foreclosure Share on athlete compensation is best expressed in terms of Wage
2	Share or Wage Level is an issue common to the classes as a whole, and neither its proof,
3	relevance, nor disproof will give rise to individualized issues. Class Mot. at 3-5, 14-29; Class
4	Reply at 1-2, 7-9.
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<u>ZUFFA'S STATEMENT OF DISPUTED ISSUES RELEVANT TO THE HEARING ON PLAINTIFFS' CLASS CERTIFICATION MOTION</u>

1. Foreclosure share

- a. Whether using Dr. Singer's foreclosure share in a regression is a rigorous and persuasive method of showing injury that affects the class as a whole and whether such a regression is a reliable and accepted basis to evaluate the existence of alleged anticompetitive activity and assess the degree of antitrust injury and damages. Singer *Daubert* Mot. (ECF No. 524) at 2; 20-22²; Zuffa's Opposition to Class Certification (ECF No. 540) ("Class Cert Opp.") at 26-28.
- b. Whether Dr. Singer's "foreclosure" share is a tautology based on a count of contracts rather than measuring actual market foreclosure. Singer *Daubert* at 21; Class Cert Opp. at 26.
- c. Whether competitors were actually foreclosed from MMA athletes. Class Cert Opp. at 26; Singer *Daubert* Mot. Reply (ECF No. 551) at 13-15.
- d. Whether Dr. Singer's foreclosure share depends on his assumptions about applicable law. Singer *Daubert* at 21; Class Cert Opp. at 26-27, 35 & n.55.
- e. Whether Dr. Singer appropriately defines athletes as "foreclosed" if their exclusive contracts could extend to 30 months. Singer *Daubert* at 20-22; Class Cert Opp. at 26-27.

The parties previously agreed "that the Court may consider the class certification briefing and exhibits thereto as part of the record for purposes of the *Daubert* motions, and that the *Daubert* briefing and exhibits thereto may be considered as part of the record for purposes of the Motion for Class Certification." ECF No. 545, Jt. Mot. to Supplement Expert Reports. The Court granted the parties Joint Motion during the December 2018 hearing. ECF No. 628 ("It is further ordered that [545] Joint Motion to Supplement Expert Reports Is GRANTED"). Zuffa's position is that the parties have incorporated the *Daubert* briefings as part of the record for the purposes of the Motion for Class Certification. ECF No. 545, ECF No. 628. Plaintiffs' view is that because the Court has denied the *Daubert* motions without prejudice, ECF No. 600, it is up to the Court regarding whether to consider the *Daubert* briefing as part of the class certification record.

- f. Whether it is proper to weight the foreclosure share variable by downstream event revenues of different MMA promoters. Singer *Daubert* at 33-35; Singer *Daubert* Reply at 15; Class Cert Opp. at 11.
- g. Whether Dr. Singer's decision to only include live gate revenues and PPV revenues and exclude other sources of revenue such as broadcast fees in calculating event revenue for his weighting is proper. Singer *Daubert* at 35; Class Cert Opp. at 11.
- h. Whether Dr. Singer's foreclosure share accurately measures the Challenged Conduct or is impacted by procompetitive actions like Zuffa increasing output and athlete pay. Singer *Daubert* at 15; Class Cert Opp. at 35-36.
- i. Whether it is proper to weight the foreclosure share by the inverse of an athlete's rank. Singer *Daubert* at 10, 28; Class Cert Opp. at 11.
- j. Whether it is appropriate to assign a foreclosure share of zero to Strikeforce athletes who participated in events before Zuffa acquired Strikeforce. Singer *Daubert* at 23; Class Cert Opp. at 11.
- 2. **Fighter share.** Fighter share is the share of event revenue attributed to individual fighters.
 - a. Whether using fighter share as the dependent variable in a regression or in a yardstick comparison is a reliable and accepted basis to evaluate the existence of alleged anticompetitive activity and assess the degree of antitrust injury and damages where actual compensation has been rising and a regression using actual compensation as the dependent variable shows no anticompetitive effect, injury or damages. Singer *Daubert* at 12-14; Class Cert Opp. at 24-26; Singer *Daubert* Reply at 4-8.
 - b. Whether using fighter share of revenue as the basis for showing antitrust injury or damages means that the courts and expert witnesses will be deciding how companies should allocate their revenues to wages, compensation, and other costs. Singer *Daubert* Reply at 6-7; Class Cert Opp. at 24-25.

1	anticompetitive is a valid methodological approach. Singer <i>Daubert</i> at 24-25;
2	Class Cert Opp. at 27.
3	9. Whether the so-called sponsorship "tax" is evidence of common classwide impact. Singer
4	Daubert at 38; Class Cert Opp. at 29-30; Singer Daubert Reply at 17.
5	10. Whether Dr. Singer's regression which shows negative damages for 14 athletes
6	accounting for 27% of his total damages supports a finding of common impact. Class
7	Cert Opp. at 15-16.
8	11. Whether the market definition in Dr. Singer's foreclosure share is accepted and reliable or
9	persuasive and rigorous. Class Cert Opp. at 22-24; 26-28; Singer Daubert at 28-35.
10	a. Whether Dr. Singer applied the Horizontal Merger Guidelines when he defined
11	markets around fighters (seller of services) rather than the promoters (buyers of
12	services). Singer <i>Daubert</i> at 28-29; Singer <i>Daubert</i> Reply at 15-16; Class Cert
13	Opp. at 22.
14	b. Whether FightMatrix and FightMetric are reliable sources from which to define a
15	market. Singer <i>Daubert</i> at 29-32, Class Cert Opp. at 22.
16	c. Whether Dr. Singer's exclusion of all international promoters from the market,
17	except for One Championship is proper. Singer Daubert Reply at 16; Class Cert
18	Opp. at 22-23.
19	d. Whether it is proper to weight Zuffa's market share with downstream event
20	revenues. Singer Daubert at 33-35; Singer Daubert Reply at 15-16; Class Cert
21	Opp. at 11, 22.
22	12. Whether Dr. Singer's geographic market which includes purchasers of tickets to live
23	MMA events is properly defined as a national, as opposed to a regional, market. Class
24	Cert Opp. at 22-24.
25	a. Whether a regional geographic market raises individualized issues that predominate
26	over common questions. Class Cert Opp. at 22-24.
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1	e. Whether an appropriate comparator can be in the same geographic and product
2	market as the defendant. Zimbalist Daubert at 5-8; Class Cert Opp. at 11.
3	f. Whether the comparators of other sports exemplify a but-for world in which the
4	challenged conduct is absent. Zimbalist Daubert at 8-9; Class Cert Opp. at 11, 35-
5	36.
6	18. Whether a conclusion that a firm has exercised monopsony power without proof that the
7	firm also exercised monopoly power makes economic sense. Class Cert Opp. at 9-10.
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1	ATTESTATION OF FILER	
2	The signatories to this document are myself and Eric Cramer, and I have obtained Mr.	
3	Cramer's concurrence to file this document on his behalf.	
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6	Dated: August 20, 2019 By: /s/ William A. Isaacson	
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9	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE	
10		
11	The undersigned hereby certifies that service of the foregoing Plaintiffs' and Zuffa's	
12	Statements re: Issues in Dispute for Evidentiary Hearing re: Class Certification was served to	
13	opposing counsel on August 20, 2019 via the Court's CM/ECF electronic filing system addressed	
14	to all parties on the e-service list.	
15		
16		
17	Dated: August 20, 2019 By: /s/ Roderick Crawford Roderick Crawford	
18		
19	An employee of Boies Schiller Flexner LLP	
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	JOINT STATEMENT RE: ISSUES IN DISPUTE AT EVIDENTIARY HEARING	
	JOHN STATEMENT RE, ISSUES IN DISCUTE AT EVIDENTIART HEARING	